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UNCLAS ANKARA 004553

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TREASURY FOR OASIA  
STATE FOR EB/TPP/MTA/IPC  
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TAGS: [ETRD](#) [KIPR](#) [TU](#)  
SUBJECT: Turkey Plans to Accede to WIPO Internet  
Treaties

Ref: State 174725

1. Econoff delivered reftel demarche urging accession to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Copyright Treaty (WCT) and Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) to Oya Karakas, MFA Head of Department for Multilateral Economic Affairs, on July 18. Karakas responded that Turkey intends to accede to both treaties after necessary domestic procedures are implemented, probably in the fall of 2003. She stated that Turkey's 2001 copyright law already implements the substance of the WCT and WPPT.

2. Karakas informed us that, through a bureaucratic oversight, Turkey had not completed procedures to accede to the 1961 Rome and 1971 Berne Conventions on intellectual property. Along with the Internet treaties, implementing the Rome and Berne Conventions are part of Turkey's agenda for EU accession. Karakas advised that MFA and the Culture Ministry are working toward accession to the Rome and Berne Conventions in the near future.  
Pearson